

Lofing and thank him for his dedication to Colorado as a member of the Otero County Road and Bridge Crew. For thirty-one years, Jay worked as a heavy equipment operator and road foreman for the county. As Jay celebrates his retirement, I would like to join my colleagues here today in recognizing his tremendous service to Otero County and the State of Colorado.

In 1973, Jay was hired as a heavy equipment operator by Otero County, and in 1994 became road foreman of the Road and Bridge Crew. When he first began working on the crew, he had to work completely exposed to the elements. With technological advancements, operators now get to work in air-conditioned cabs, sheltered from the weather. As much as Jay enjoyed his recent position as road foreman, he really took great pleasure in operating the heavy equipment. Now that Jay is retired, he plans on traveling with his wife Linda and spending lots of time with their granddaughter Kelly.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to bring the career and service of Jay Lofing to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation, and I would like to congratulate him on an outstanding career. His tireless work and leadership have helped ensure the safety of our roadways, and I wish him and Linda the best in their future endeavors.

THE PRICE OF GIVING BAD ADVICE

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, William A. Whitlow is a retired major general in the Marine Corps. During his service to our nation, he served as director of the expeditionary warfare division in the office of the deputy chief of naval operations. He wrote a compelling and informative opinion piece, which appeared in last Sunday's Washington Post. In the piece, Mr. Whitlow discusses the dismal situation in Iraq, and the poor counsel the president received from his advisors leading up to the conflict.

I ask unanimous consent that this piece appear in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and I encourage all of my colleagues to read it.

[From the Washington Post, May 30, 2004]

THE PRICE OF GIVING BAD ADVICE

(By William A. Whitlow)

As the war in Iraq drags on, conservative citizens, mostly Republican, face a growing dilemma in the November election.

In the face of growing evidence that the president was deceived and misguided about the cause and urgency for waging war on Saddam Hussein, it is time for those responsible to stand forth and accept accountability. True, the president is ultimately responsible for the actions of his vice president, his Cabinet and the executive departments. But it has become clear that the counsel the president received from the vice president, secretary of defense, deputy secretary of defense and senior uniformed leadership was severely flawed and uncorroborated. Whether the president was intentionally misled by neoconservatives or whether their advice was a result of pure incompetence remains to be seen. The fact is that he was misled sufficiently to require

him to take bold action to restore his diminished credibility.

The supposedly urgent need to attack Iraq was based partly on inflated, creative intelligence information, some of which originated with Ahmed Chalabi, an associate of the vice president and deputy secretary of defense. The information from Chalabi led the vice president and defense secretary to believe that war with Iraq would be a "cakewalk" and U.S. forces would be received with open arms. This belief resulted in a fatal flaw in developing a complete war strategy. A principal tenet of forming a strategy—have a "war termination" phase—was neglected. Although the tactical and operational phases of the war were conducted flawlessly by superior field commanders, the absence of a complete strategy has needlessly cost lives.

Our service members are the ultimate victims of this incomplete strategy, misguided policy and false intelligence. It is inconceivable and derelict not to have a viable war termination strategy for an operation as complex as a major theater war. America's citizens and our service members deserve far better for their sacrifices. This combination of things—misleading the president with false intelligence and omitting a principal element from our war strategy—is reason enough to seek change in the vice presidency and senior defense leadership, civilian and military.

It is our patriotic duty to speak out when egregiously flawed policies and strategies needlessly cost American lives. It is time for the president to ask those responsible for the flawed Iraqi policy—civilian and military—to resign from public service. Absent such a change in the current administration, many of us will be forced to choose a presidential candidate whose domestic policies we may not like but who understands firsthand the effects of flawed policies and incompetent military strategies and who fully comprehends the price.

RECOGNIZING JARED PAUL SALESKI FOR ACHIEVING THE AWARD OF GOLD MEDAL OF ACHIEVEMENT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jared Saleski, son of Paul and Elizabeth Saleski, a fine young man who has exemplified the optimum qualities of citizenship and leadership by actively participating in the Boy Scouts of America and earning the most prestigious award, the Eagle Scout. He is scheduled for his Eagle Court of Honor on May 25, 2004.

Jared has been very active with his troop from the age of six, participating in many Scout activities. In that time, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Patrol Leader, Den Chief, Troop Guide, and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. He progressed through the rank of Tenderfoot Second Class, First Class, Star, and Life. Jared has earned forty-one merit badges in his career with the Boy Scouts. Besides these achievements, he has earned the religious emblems presented from the Catholic Church of Ad Altare Dei and Pope Pius VI. Jared is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, Chapter Seven and a Fire-Starter member of the Tribe of Mic-O-

Say. He has attended camp at Camp Naish and six sessions at the H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation in Osceola, Missouri, as well as a Packard High Adventure Camp in Salida, Colorado. Jared's Eagle Scout Project was to construct a concrete driving slab for the barn at the Immacolata Manor Home for women in Liberty, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jared Paul Saleski for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE McMANUS DEMOCRATIC ASSO- CIATION AND ITS HONOREE, BRIAN O'DWYER

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the achievements of Brian O'Dwyer, who on May 24, 2004 will be honored at the McManus Democratic Association's Annual Spring Cocktail Party. I am very pleased to offer my warmest congratulations to both the McManus Association, for another year of outstanding service to New York City residents, and to Mr. O'Dwyer, who has long been a leader in the New York community.

The McManus family has been a fixture of New York City politics for more than one hundred years. For the past three decades, the leader of the McManus Democratic Association, James McManus, has been an advocate, ombudsman and friend to residents of midtown Manhattan. The Association, an active social-service organization, helps its members to find jobs, housing, educational opportunities and better medical care, and continually strives to promote the interests of working-class New Yorkers through collective action. The Association has also made a longstanding commitment to young New Yorkers, introducing students to the political process and to government service. I commend the McManus Association for its tireless efforts on behalf of midtown residents; time and again, the Association exemplifies the notion that we work best when we work together.

Like Jim McManus, Brian O'Dwyer is also part of a long and proud tradition in New York political life. Mr. McManus's father, Paul, served as New York City Council President from 1974 to 1978, and his uncle, William O'Dwyer, was the Mayor of New York City from 1946 to 1950. Mr. O'Dwyer currently serves as senior partner in the law firm of O'Dwyer & Bernstein, a firm known for its work in labor law, personal injury cases and civil rights litigation.

Mr. O'Dwyer has never forgotten his roots as a descendant of Irish immigrants and has steadfastly worked to promote the rights and well-being of new Americans, regardless of their country of origin. In 1995, Mr. O'Dwyer, serving as the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Emerald Isle Immigration Center, accompanied President Bill Clinton on his historic trip to Ireland. He has also served as Counsel to the Department of Community Affairs of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and was recognized by the Governor of Puerto Rico for his efforts on behalf of the Puerto